

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY OES/APT/BMP:PHAMILY:LER

APPROVED BY OES/APT:OGANLEY

OES/APT/BMP:JFRY

EUR/RPE:GWOLFE

STIA/NSF:JGRANGER (INFO)

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TO USMISSION OECD PARIS

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TAGS: TGEN, OECD

SUBJECT:OECD/CSTP INFO, COMMUNICATIONS, COMPUTERS

REF: OECD 21271

1. PRELIMINARY SOUNDINGS WITH INTERESTED ICC OFFICIALS
HERE SHOW RELATIVELY CONSISTENT APPRECIATION OF OPTIONS
POSED IN JULY 5 GASSMANN LETTER. DETAILS BEING POUCHED
TO MISSION.

2. WITH RESPECT TO ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF
FIVE INSTITUTIONAL OPTIONS:

A. NEW DELEGATE BODY REPORTING TO COUNCIL DEMONSTRATES
IMPORTANCE OF FIELD WHICH INTERSECTS WITH MOST OTHER
OECD COMMITTEE INTERESTS. DISADVANTAGE IS FIELD NOT
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READY TO EMERGE IN THIS WAY AND MIGHT CREATE ADMIN

AND FINANCIAL PROBLEMS.

B. CSTP ASSUMES DIRECT MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY WOULD PROVIDE FAMILIAR HOME FOR ACTIVITIES NOW SUFFICIENTLY RECOGNIZED BY CSTP. DISADVANTAGE IS NEED TO DEFINE ACCEPTABLE OVERSIGHT MECHANISM AND FACT THAT ICC WORK MIGHT OVER SHADOW OTHER S&T POLICY CONCERNS.

C. AN ICC POLICY MANAGEMENT GROUP UNDER CSTP WOULD PROVIDE SINGLE, NATION-BASED FOCAL POINT FOR EXPERTISE IN THIS FIELD UNDER GENERAL CSTP POLICY GUIDANCE. DISADVANTAGE IS DANGER OF LIMITED CSTP REVIEW AND INTEREST AND ALSO DIFFICULTY OF INTERACTING WITH OTHER OECD COMMITTEE CONCERNS ON ICC ISSUES.

D. STATUS QUO: IPG AND CUG REMAIN SAME AS BEFORE WOULD PROVIDE NO ADVANTAGES. DISADVANTAGES ARE PROLONGING PRESENT PROBLEMS.

E. PART II BUDGET WOULD PROVIDE NEEDED RESOURCES. DISADVANTAGE IS NO INTELLECTUAL "HOME" FOR WORK AS WELL AS BEING ISOLATED.

3. US OFFICIALS PREFER OPTIONS B OR C; OPTIONS A, D AND E ARE UNACCEPTABLE. THERE IS SLIGHT PREFERENCE TO OPTION C WITH OPTION B ACCEPTABLE WITH SUITABLE CSTP STEERING GROUP TO OVERSEE WORK.

4. SELECTING NAME FOR WORKING GROUP NEEDS FURTHER THOUGHT. WE HAVE SOME PREFERENCE FOR INCLUSION OF INFORMATION POLICY IN TITLE. STILL THERE IS NEED TO BE EXPLICIT AND IDENTIFY CLIENTELE CONCERNED WITH WORK, THEREFORE INCLUDING "COMPUTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS" ALONG WITH GENERAL THEME OF INFO POLICY.

5. FINALLY, WE MAINTAIN OUR POSITION THAT THE OECD COUNCIL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DECISION PERTAINING TO INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURES AND PROGRAMS. KISSINGER

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